

*In the Claims*

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

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- A1
- 1      1.    [Original]    A method for identifying duplicate records  
2      among multiple systems, comprising the steps of:
- 3            loading first records having an index number into a  
4            database during a first predetermined time period;
- 5            for each record having said index number, searching  
6            said database for another record, loaded during a  
7            second earlier time period, having the same index  
8            number and replacing said another record, if found,  
9            with said first record;
- 10           comparing each first record for which no matching index  
11           number record was found with all other first records  
12           for which no matching index number record was found;
- 13           comparing each of said first records for which no  
14           matching index number record was found with all the  
15           other records including the replaced records in said  
16           database;

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17 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports  
18 listing records which compared; and  
19 eliminating from said database said first records  
20 deemed to have compared.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, said records being  
2 invoice records.

1 3. [Original] A method for providing a report that can be  
2 used to evaluate two or more invoiced documents for further  
3 investigation of possible duplicate invoicing, comprising  
4 the steps of:

5 maintaining a compact database by removing canceled  
6 invoice documents and invoice documents older than a  
7 predetermined period;

8 extracting data from said compact database by matching  
9 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;  
10 and

11 producing said report from said data.

A1  
1 4. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising  
2 the step of:

3 entering invoice data to said compact database from a  
4 plurality of accounts payable systems.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising  
2 the steps of:

3 first entering said invoices into said compact database  
4 for payment at a later date; and

5 checking said compact database for duplicate invoices  
6 before said later date.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising  
2 the step responsive to submission of an invoice with a null  
3 invoice indicia field of entering date indicia in said null  
4 invoice indicia field.

1 7. [Currently amended] Method for capturing packets of  
2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,  
3 comprising the steps of:

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4 maintaining a collection of current invoices that have  
5 not yet been paid;

6 maintaining a collection of history invoices that have  
7 been paid; [[and]]

8 generating from said current invoices and said history  
9 invoices a packet of invoices exhibiting a same  
10 behavior, said packet including at least one invoice  
11 from said collection of current invoices; and

12 generating from a plurality of said packets a first  
13 report of invoices having same invoice numbers and  
14 vendor numbers, a second report of invoices having  
15 similar vendor names and same invoice amounts; a third  
16 report of invoices having similar invoice dates and  
17 invoice amounts differing only on flagged on flagged  
18 conditions; a fourth report of invoices having same  
19 invoice amounts and invoice numbers but not same date  
20 and vendor name; a fifth report of invoices having same  
21 invoice numbers and vendor names but not same vendor  
22 number and invoice amount; and a sixth report of  
23 invoices having same invoice numbers, vendor name and  
24 invoice amounts, irrespective of invoice date.

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25 8. [Original] The method of claim 7, each invoice  
26 comprising a record including vendor identifier indicia,  
27 vendor record indicia, date indicia, and amount indicia.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 8, each said record  
2 including a vendor record indicia field, a data indicia  
3 field, and an amount indicia field.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising  
2 the steps of:

3 flagging said invoices in said packet against each  
4 other with respect to expert criteria;

5 dropping from said packet unflagged invoices; and

6 discarding remaining packets having no current  
7 invoices.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging record pairs having transposed digits  
3 in said vendor record indicia fields.

1 12. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising

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2 the step responsive to receiving an invoice with null vendor  
3 record indicia field of entering date indicia as date-like  
4 indicia to said vendor record indicia field.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor  
3 identifier indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor  
4 indicia field.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor  
3 record indicia.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having, for matching  
3 vendor identification indicia, matching vendor record  
4 indicia except for a prefix or suffix character.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor  
3 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of  
4 different lengths.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising

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2 the step of flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor  
3 record indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 18. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising  
2 the steps of:

3 flagging invoice pairs having transposed digits in said  
4 vendor record indicia fields;

5 flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor identifier  
6 indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor indicia  
7 field;

8 flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor record  
9 indicia;

10 flagging invoice pairs having, for matching vendor  
11 identification indicia, matching vendor record indicia  
12 except for a prefix or suffix character;

13 flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor  
14 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of  
15 different lengths; and

Al  
16 flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor record  
17 indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 19. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of forcing all said invoices to be current.

1 20. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of capturing packets having same vendor and invoice  
3 numbers.

1 21. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of capturing packets having similar vendor names  
3 and same invoice amount.

1 22. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of capturing packets having similar invoice dates  
3 and amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1 23. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of capturing packets having same invoice amount and  
3 numbers but not same date and vendor name.

1 24. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of capturing packets having same invoice number and



3 vendor name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

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1 25. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of capturing packets having the same vendor number  
3 and same invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice  
4 date.

1 26. [Original] A program storage device readable by a  
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4 identifying duplicate records among multiple systems, said  
5 method steps comprising:

6 loading first records having an index number into a  
7 database during a first predetermined time period;

8 for each record having said index number, searching  
9 said database for another record, loaded during a  
10 second earlier time period, having the same index  
11 number and replacing said another record, if found,  
12 with said first record;

13 comparing each first record for which no matching index  
14 number record was found with all other first records

AI 15 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

16 comparing each of said first invoices for which no  
17 matching index number record was found with all the  
18 other records including the replaced records in said  
19 database;

20 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports  
21 listing records which compared; and

22 eliminating from said database said first records  
23 deemed to have compared.

1 27. [Original] A program storage device readable by a  
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4 providing a report that can be used to evaluate two or more  
5 invoiced documents for further investigation of possible  
6 duplicate invoicing, said method steps comprising:

7 maintaining a compact database by removing canceled  
8 invoice documents and invoice documents older than a  
9 predetermined period;

M 10 extracting data from said compact database by matching  
11 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;  
12 and

13 producing said report from said data.

1 28. [Original] A program storage device readable by a  
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4 capturing packets of possible duplicate invoices for  
5 duplicate invoice analysis, said method steps comprising:

6 maintaining a collection of current invoices that have  
7 not yet been paid;

8 maintaining a collection of history invoices that have  
9 been paid; and

10 generating from said current invoices and said history  
11 invoices a packet of invoices exhibiting a same  
12 behavior, said packet including at least one invoice  
13 from said collection of current invoices.

1 29. [Currently amended] A system for capturing packets of

M 2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,  
3 comprising:

4 a current file of invoices that have not yet been paid;

5 a history file of invoices that have been paid; and ,

6 a packet of invoices generated from said current file  
7 and said history files for storing invoices exhibiting  
8 a same behavior, said packet including at least one  
9 invoice from said of current file[[.]] and

10 a plurality of reports generated from a plurality of  
11 said packets including a first report of invoices  
12 having same invoice numbers and vendor numbers, a  
13 second report of invoices having similar vendor names  
14 and same invoice amounts; a third report of invoices  
15 having similar invoice dates and invoice amounts  
16 differing only on flagged on flagged conditions; a  
17 fourth report of invoices having same invoice amounts  
18 and invoice numbers but not same date and vendor name;  
19 a fifth report of invoices having same invoice numbers  
20 and vendor names but not same vendor number and invoice  
21 amount; and a sixth report of invoices having same

22 invoice numbers, vendor name and invoice amounts,  
23 irrespective of invoice date.

24 30. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
25 containing invoices having same vendor and invoice numbers.

1 31. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having similar vendor names and same  
3 invoice amount.

1 32. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having similar invoice dates and  
3 amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1 33. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having same invoice amount and numbers  
3 but not same date and vendor name.

1 34. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having same invoice number and vendor  
3 name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

1 35. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having the same vendor number and same

A| 3 invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice date.

1 36. [Original] A computer program product or computer  
2 program element  
3 for identifying duplicate records among multiple systems  
4 according to method steps comprising:

5 loading first records having an index number into a  
6 database during a first predetermined time period;

7 for each record having said index number, searching  
8 said database for another record, loaded during a  
9 second earlier time period, having the same index  
10 number and replacing said another record, if found,  
11 with said first record;

12 comparing each first record for which no matching index  
13 number record was found with all other first records  
14 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

15 comparing each of said first invoices for which no  
16 matching index number record was found with all the  
17 other records including the replaced records in said  
18 database;

19 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports  
20 listing records which compared; and  
21 eliminating from said database said first records  
22 deemed to have compared.

1 37. [Original] A computer program product or computer  
2 program element for capturing packets of possible duplicate  
3 invoices for duplicate invoice analysis according to method  
4 steps comprising:

5 maintaining a collection of current invoices that have  
6 not yet been paid;

7 maintaining a collection of history invoices that have  
8 been paid; and

9 generating from said current invoices and said history  
10 invoices a packet of invoices exhibiting a same  
11 behavior, said packet including at least one invoice  
12 from said collection of current invoices.

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